

CYLINDROCLADIUM LEAF SPOT OF MAGNOLIA

S. A. Alfieri, Jr. and A. E. Graham

Magnolia grandiflora L. is a large evergreen, ornamental tree valued for its glossy leaves and showy, white flowers. Though a number of pathogenic organisms are known to affect Magnolia, the diseases they cause are not generally destructive.

A new leaf spot disease of *Magnolia* (2) was found to be caused by *Cylindrocladium scoparium* Morgan (Fig. 2), a fungus (3,6,7,9) which is becoming increasingly important along with other species as pathogens on many types of ornamental plants (1,4,5,8,9).

SYMPTOMS. The first symptoms of the disease appear as pin-point, dark brown leaf spots with a yellow border, occurring in greater number on younger leaves. As the leaf spots enlarge they become brown, irregularly shaped, faintly zonate, and occur mostly at the margins of the leaves (Fig. 1). The spots eventually coalesce, and the leaves turn completely brown and abscise.

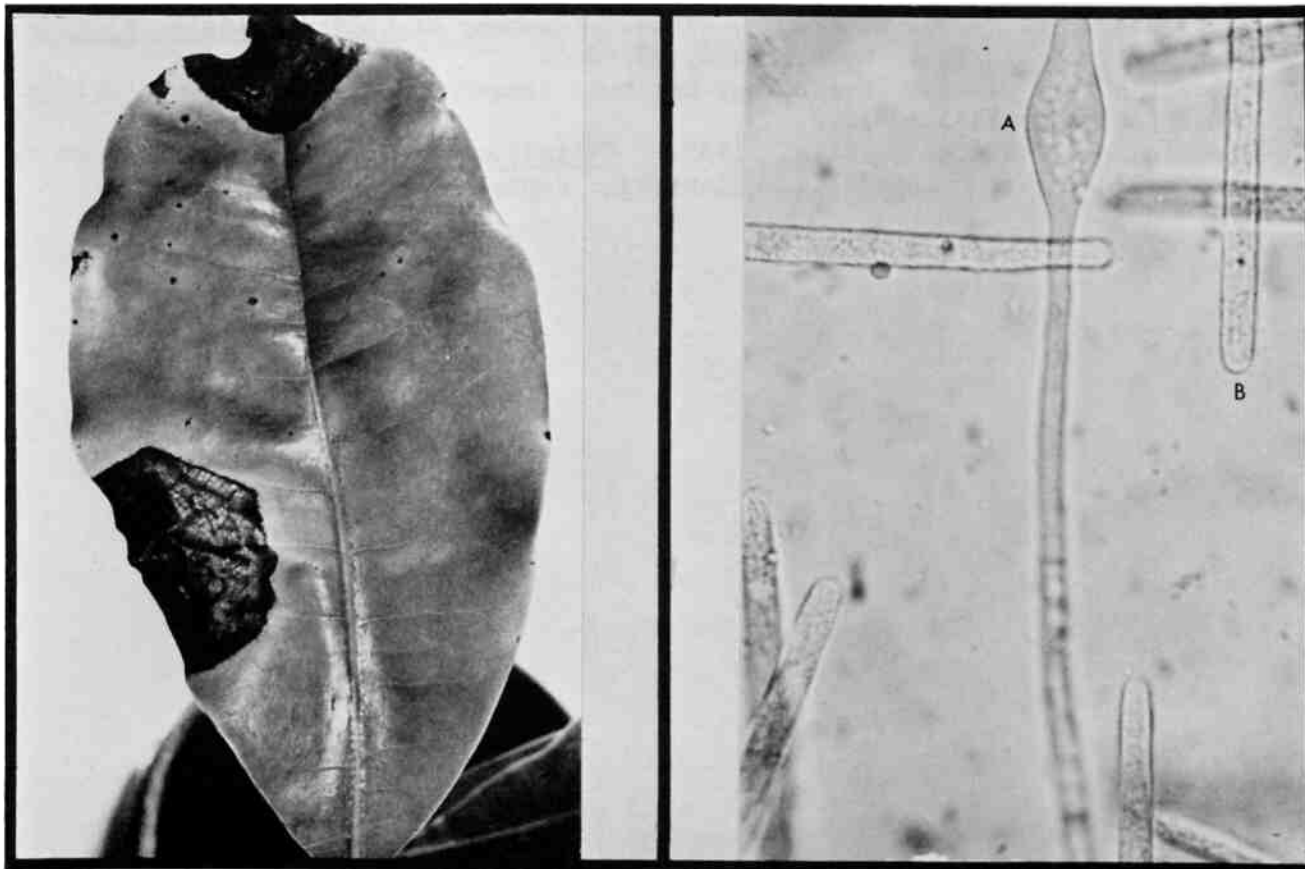


Fig. 1. *Cylindrocladium* leaf spot of *Magnolia grandiflora*.

Fig. 2. *Cylindrocladium scoparium* Morgan: A) stipe with ellipsoid vesicle at apex; B) conidium.

CONTROL. Daconil 2787 75 WP or Dithane M45 80 WP applied at the rate of 1½ lbs/100 gal water gives excellent control of this disease (2). Benlate at 1 lb/100 gal water is also reported to provide good control (4,5). Due to the heavy waxy layer on the leaves, the addition of a spreader-sticker to the fungicide is recommended.

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